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CONSTITUTION

OF THE

PENNSYLVANIA SOCIETY

FOR THE

PROMOTION OF INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS IN THE
COMMONWEALTH.

I. This Society shall consist of as many members as shall sign this constitution: and its object shall be, as designated in the title, to promote internal improvements in the commonwealth.

II. The Officers of the Society shall be a President, three Vice Presidents, a Recording and a Corresponding Secretary, and a Treasurer; who shall be chosen on the second Tuesday in December of the present year, and on the first Wednesday in January, in every year after 1825. The Officers chosen at any election shall retain their offices until the appointment of successors.

III. The President, or, in his absence, one of the Vice Presidents, or, in their absence, a Chairman chosen *pro tempore*, shall preside at the meetings of the Society. The President shall call extra meetings whenever requested by six members in writing, whereof three days notice shall be given.

IV. The Recording Secretary shall keep fair minutes of the proceedings of the Society.

V. The Treasurer shall receive all monies belonging to the Society, and keep correct accounts of the receipts and disbursements, which he shall present to the Society at the stated meetings. He shall pay no monies but on the order of the President, countersigned by the Secretary.

VI. The Society shall hold meetings every two

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months, on the first Wednesday of January, March, May, July, September, and November.

VII. An Acting Committee, to consist of five members, shall be appointed on the second Tuesday in December of this year, and at the first meeting of the Society in every year after 1825; which committee shall perform such duties as may be entrusted to them by the society, and shall have charge of its correspondence. The Corresponding Secretary shall act as secretary of the committee, and shall keep its minutes.

VIII. The subscription for the first year shall be one hundred dollars, payable in four quarterly instalments, the first on the organization of the Society. The subscription after the first year shall be ten dollars per annum.

Nov. 30, 1824.

BY-LAWS.

1. At the opening of the society, the minutes of the preceding meeting shall be read, and, if necessary, amended.

2. No member shall be interrupted while speaking in order; except for the especial purpose of explaining any mistake committed by the member so interrupted.

3. The Recording Secretary shall give the members notice of the meetings of the Society, through the post-office, at least three days preceding.

4. The Acting Committee shall hold stated meetings on the second Tuesday of every month. The Chairman may call extra meetings of the Committee, whenever in his opinion the same may be necessary.

5. One hundred dollars shall be placed in the hands of the Corresponding Secretary, to pay for printing and other contingent expenses, which may be incurred

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by the Committee. His vouchers for the disbursement of this money shall be the order of the Chairman of the Acting Committee. These disbursements shall in no case exceed fifty dollars between any two stated meetings of the Society: and the accounts of the Secretary shall be submitted at the stated meetings immediately subsequent to any disbursements.

6. The Society may elect honorary members, and information of their election shall be communicated to them by the Corresponding Secretary.

7. The Acting Committee shall open a Correspondence with the friends of internal improvements in the United States and elsewhere; with all who have charge of public works in the United States; and with those who are skilled in the science of civil engineering. They shall collect such information, in relation to the objects of the Society, as can be procured; and shall from time to time report their proceedings, and such other matters as may be interesting to the Society, and may contribute by their statement and promulgation to the purposes for which it is established. The Committee may submit, for the consideration of the Society, plans for public improvements, and such estimates of their cost, and of the means of their accomplishment, as can be procured without expense; unless the expenditure of money for the purpose of attaining such estimates and plans shall be specially authorized by the Society. They shall keep accurate minutes of their proceedings, which shall be submitted to the Society at every stated meeting.

8. No alteration shall be made in the Constitution or By-laws, unless proposed at one stated meeting, and adopted at a subsequent stated meeting.

9. The Acting Committee may make their own rules and regulations.

*Officers of the Society.*

PRESIDENT.

JOHN SERGEANT.

VICE PRESIDENTS.

**JOHN CONNELLY,
MATHEW CAREY,
PAUL BECK, JR.**

TREASURER.

JOHN WHITE.

RECORDING SECRETARY.

JOHN Y. CLARK.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.

GERARD RALSTON.

ACTING COMMITTEE.

**MATHEW CAREY,
JOSEPH HEMPHILL,
RICHARD PETERS, JR.
STEPHEN DUNCAN,
WILLIAM STRICKLAND.**

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